

requires a broad response from the entirety of the Federal Government. The President should meet this challenge head on.

Across the globe, people are suffering from the effects of climate change. U.S. businesses and the military feel those threatening impacts as well. U.S. elected officials must listen to these businesses and our Armed Forces. The United States should not only have a seat at the international table, we should be leading the global community. I urge passage of S. Res. 155, affirming our commitment to work with the international community to effectively address climate change.

#### PARIS AGREEMENT

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I wish to speak in strong support of the U.N. Paris climate change agreement and in opposition to efforts to undermine this international agreement that is vital to the environmental and economic well-being of New Hampshire, the Nation, and the world.

In 2015, I joined nine of my Senate colleagues in Paris to attend the 21st U.N. Climate Change Conference, also known as COP 21, where the climate agreement was negotiated. What we witnessed at COP 21 was monumental: 195 countries representing more than 95 percent of global carbon emissions worked together to adopt the first universal climate agreement that calls for international cooperation on addressing the causes of global warming and helping poorer nations most affected by it. The following year, on Earth Day, the United States and more than 170 nations signed the international climate agreement in New York; and on November 4, 2016, the Paris Accord entered into force.

I am proud to say that the U.S. was a big part of that effort. That is why I am so disappointed to see that President Trump is currently considering whether to pull the United States from this historic agreement. This would be a huge mistake.

No country is insulated from the increasingly present and escalating effects of climate change. In the United States, we are seeing it throughout the country, and this is certainly true in New Hampshire. Rising temperatures are shortening our fall foliage season, which is so important to our State's tourism economy. Milder winters have led to increases of insect-borne diseases that endanger our wildlife. In New Hampshire, we have already seen a 40 percent decline in our moose population. The changing climate is also putting more stress on sugar maples, and this is already affecting syrup production.

The Paris Agreement establishes a long-term, durable global framework for countries to work together to reduce carbon emissions and keep the global temperature rise well below 2 degrees Celsius in order to avoid some of the worst consequences of climate change. For the first time, countries have committed to putting forward

ambitious, nationally determined climate targets and reporting on their progress towards those targets using a standardized process of review. The Paris Agreement encourages transparency, accountability, and collaboration among nations not only to meet their climate targets, but to encourage innovation while doing so.

That is why American business leaders are strongly in favor of continued U.S. participation in the Paris accord. From oil giants to tech firms, corporate leaders understand that the transition to clean energy presents one of the biggest economic opportunities of this century to create jobs and build wealth in this country. In fact, the International Energy Agency projects that, over the coming decades, more than \$60 trillion will be invested in energy efficiency and clean energy technologies as countries address the threat of climate change. The United States stands in a unique position to be the leader of the clean energy revolution. This would be jeopardized if the President decides to remove the United States from the international climate agreement.

Climate change represents an enormous challenge, but the solutions are within reach if we put into place policies that allow for swift action. The United States must help ensure that the goals of the Paris Agreement are realized. That is why I joined with my colleagues to introduce a resolution stating that the United States should work in cooperation with the international community and continue to exercise global leadership to address the causes and effects of climate change. We have a responsibility to help protect our children and grandchildren from the most severe consequences of global warming by reducing emissions now. This President must not remove the United States from this important agreement.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING FLEWELLING FAMILY FARMS

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Flewelling Farms, who has been designated family farm of the year and McCain's "Grower of the Year." Farms and farm families are essential assets to my home State of Maine—not just for the tremendous economic benefits the agriculture industry has, but also for the rich heritage and work ethic that makes up the communities where generations have plowed the lands. Maine agriculture is more diversified than in many States, and on any given day, you can drive past acres of potatoes, grains, large dairy farms, small truck farms, and even smaller value added farms producing cheese, breads, and maple syrup, as well as conventional farms, organic farms, and even farms raising oysters, seaweed, and salmon.

From now until the farm bill is passed, I want to take the opportunity to talk about Maine farms and farmers,

their creativity, ingenuity, perseverance, and ability to grow amazing food and fiber on what can often be hard scrabble land with a solid crop of rocks and trees always watching for the opportunity to creep back on to land that was cleared long ago by hard work.

I want to begin in the agricultural county of Maine, Aroostook County. The potato is king in Aroostook County, ME—the large farms and relatively flat fertile land produce 16 million pounds of seed, chip, and table stock potatoes on nearly 50,000 acres, generating thousands of jobs and infuse millions of dollars into the economy of the State of Maine.

While agriculture is indeed valuable and essential to tables across the Nation and the world, community and farm families are what really makes northern Maine a special place. I am pleased to honor one such family today, the Jerry and Bruce Flewelling family of Easton. The Flewelling family was named the "2016 Farm Family of the Year" by the Maine Potato Board and the McCain's "Champion Grower of 2016" as well. These recognitions are given for the quality of product and commitment to the industry, but also for the heart and hardiness of the family who, through trials and tribulations of unpredictable weather and markets, keeps their drive for excellence at the forefront of every day. The Flewellings have been doing this for six generations. The first Flewellings arrived in this country from Wales in the late 1800s, entering the United States near where the family farm is today.

They have experienced tremendous change in how potatoes are grown, harvested, and stored, but by being ready to implement best practices, new technologies, and innovation, they have grown the farm and its quality and productivity and are able to carry on the strong tradition of agriculture in Maine.

In addition to being an exceptional small business, the family members are active community members as well. They serve on municipal boards, Maine Pesticide Control Board, Agricultural Bargaining Council, as well as Maine Potato Growers. They are a strong voice for future generations of farmers and are mentors to other farmers, as well always encouraging others and sharing their expertise.

For these reasons and many more not listed here, I offer my congratulations to Jerry and Bruce and their family on the continuation of an exceptional farm and best wishes as they continue to instill a legacy of hard work and exceptional crops for future generations to come.●

##### REMEMBERING DR. CYNTHIA "CYNDI" RAY AND TRIBUTE TO SEAN ENGLISH

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the heroic actions of